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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY Ceylon
SUBJECT Curious Transactions in Monazite SandPLACE ACQUIRED
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DATE (OF INFO.) 16 Oct 53

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1. After the Indian decree prohibiting the export of monazite sand, four different installations on the coast of Ceylon were set up for the production of this material. Ceylon announced to all interested parties that there would be no restrictions on the export of monazite sand to any country, and that by 1 May 1954 about 100 tons of monazite would be available, with 1,500 tons foreseen as the production for 1954.
2. There is a **Soviet** order for 40 tons. An offer from the Netherlands is at a price of 200 pounds sterling per ton, in gold. This is far above the going market price, and would appear to be a cover for a **Soviet** order, arranged to keep the real destination of the monazite a secret from Western eyes.

- End -

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